

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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O 261426Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4996

S E C R E T PRETORIA 3278

NODIS CHEROKEE

ALSO FOR ASST SECY SCHAUFEELE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR ZA RH UNSC

SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE -- ZAMBIAN COMPLAINT

REF: STATE 182641

1. I CALLED ON PRIME MINISTER VORSTER AT 12:30 PM TODAY TO CONVEY THE TWO POINTS CONTAINED REFTEL RELATING TO ZAMBIA'S COMPLAINT TO THE UNSC. HE ASKED ME TO COME TO HIS HOME AND INITIALLY INSISTED ON DISCUSSING SOUTH AFRICA'S VICTORY OVER NEW ZEALAND IN THE FIRST GAME OF THE RUGBY TEST SERIES LAST SATURDAY. HE HAD MISSED THE GAME BUT KNEW THAT I HAD BEEN PRESENT.

2. AFTER I HAD MADE THE POINTS OF THE REFTEL, VORSTER SAID WE COULD BE SURE THAT THE SAG PLACED HIGH PRIORITY ON CURRENT EFFORTS TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS AND WOULD DO ALL IT COULD IN DEALING WITH THE ZAMBIAN COMPLAINT TO AVOID ADVERSE EFFECTS. HE WAS NOT SURE THAT ZAMBIA WOULD SHOW RESTRAINT BUT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD.

3. WITH RESPECT TO SOUTH AFRICA PARTICIPATING IN THE DEBATE, VORSTER SAID THAT A FINAL DECISION HAD NOT BEEN TAKEN, BUT PREPARATIONS ARE PROCEEDING AND IN THE END AMB BOTHA WOULD PROBABLY TAKE PART. HE REGRETTED THAT GOZ HAD GONE TO THE UN AND IGNORED SAG OFFERS TO
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INVESTIGATE AND DISCUSS, WHICH COULD HAVE AVOIDED ALL

THIS FUSS. IN ANY EVENT, SOUTH AFRICA WOULD SEEK TO AVOID RHETORIC AND POLEMICS EVEN WHERE THE PROVOCATION IS GREAT.

4. THE PM NEXT BROUGHT UP THE RHODESIAN QUESTION. HE SAID HE WANTED US TO KNOW THAT HIS SOUNDINGS SHOWED THAT THE CHANCES OF ARRIVING AT A SETTLEMENT ARE AS GOOD NOW AS THEY HAVE EVER BEEN. HE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH ELEMENTS OF THE RHODESIAN GOVT AND THE ANC AND FOUND BOTH RECEPTIVE TO ANOTHER EFFORT TO FIND A SOLUTION. HE ASKED IF I HAD ANY DETAILS ON ASST SECY SCHAUFELE'S CONVERSATIONS IN AFRICA. I TOLD HIM I DID NOT AND I ASSUMED THAT THIS IS A SUBJECT WHICH MIGHT BE COVERED IN DISCUSSIONS WITH AMB BOTHA IN WASHINGTON.

5. AS I TOOK LEAVE, THE PM ASKED ME TO CONVEY THE HOPE THAT THE USG WOULD USE ITS INFLUENCE WITH ZAMBIA TO PURSUE A MODERATE COURSE IN THE UNSC DEBATE. I TOLD HIM I WOULD PASS THE MESSAGE.
BOWDLER

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